

GRAUSTARK

#323 73BP, 73BC, 74GJ, 74GR, 74HQ, 74IA & 74.12a 18 January 1975

1973BB "Winter 1915-Spring 1916"

IM OSTEN NICHTS NEUES

Following "Fall 1915" moves, England built F Liv & F Edi, and Russia removed F Nwy & F Nth.

ENGLAND (Eisen): F Eng-Mid; F Lye & F St.P(n.c.) hold; F Wes-Naf; F Swe-Bal; F Lon-Eng; A Ruh-Mun; A Bel-Bur; F Nrg-Nwy; F Edi-Nth; F Liv-Lri.

ITALY (Heuer): A Tyr S A Vie; A Vie S TURKISH A Rum-Gal; F Rom S TURKISH F Tyr-Tus.

RUSSIA*(Honig): F Hol, F Sev & F Den hold; A Mos & A Ukr S F Sev; A Boh & A War S A Gal; A Mun-Sil; A Gal S A Boh.

TURKEY (Paulson): F Tyr-Tus; F Ion-Tyr; F Tun S F Ion-Tyr; F Aeg-Ion; A Tri S ITALIAN A Tyr; A Bud S ITALIAN A Vie; A Rum-Sev; F Fla & F Arm S A Rum-Sev; A Ser-Rum; F Bul(e.c.) S A Ser-Rum.

Underlined moves are not possible. The proposed draw fails of unanimity, but is re-submitted for another vote. The deadline for "Fall 1916" votes is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1975.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR PLAYERS IN POSTAL DIPLOMACY GAME 1974GJ

The "Fall 1902" moves are printed on p. 4, with a list of players who have to make "Winter 1902" builds or removals. All but one of these players has already done so, and I expect the remaining build in a day or two. Accordingly I will mail out the "Winter 1902" to all players, and set the deadline for "Spring 1903" moves at NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1975.

1973BC "Fall-Winter 1911"

WESTERN FORCES SURGE EAST

Following "Spring 1911" moves, Austria-Hungary retreated A War-Liv, the only alternative.

ENGLAND (Kelly): A War-Ukr; A Mos S A War-Ukr; A Pru-War; A St.P S A Mos; A Sil S FRENCH A Boh-Gal; F Bal-Ber; F Bot-Bal; F Nth holds.

FRANCE (Model): A Boh-Gal; A Mun-Boh; A Tyr-Vie; F Tyr-Ion; F Tun S F Tyr-Ion; F Wes-Tyr; F Lye S A Tus; A Mar-Pie; A Tus S A Mar-Pie; A Kie-Mun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lipton): A Vie, A Rom & A Ven hold; A Rum S TURKISH A Ukr-Sev; A Tri S A Vie; A Bud-Ser; A Liv not ordered, holds.

TURKEY (Carroll): A Ukr-Sev; F Fla S A Ukr-Sev; F Aeg S F Ion; F Alb-Adr; F Apu S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ven; A Nap S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Rom; F Ion holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. The proposed draw fails of unanimity, but is re-submitted for another vote. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Ber, Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Mos, Nwy, St.P, Swe, War. (10)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Hol, Kie, Mar, Mun, Par, For, Spa, Tun. (10)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Rom, Rum, Ser, Tri, Ven, Vie. (7)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Nap, Sev, Smy. (7)

The only changes are two English builds, A Lon & A Edi. The deadline for "Spring 1912" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1975.

I would like to thank Eric Verheiden for submitting stand-by moves for this game.

1974HQ

"Fall 1901"

TURKS BALKED IN BALKANS

ENGLAND (T. Scanlan): A Edi-Nwy; F Nth C A Edi-Nwy; F Nrg S A Edi-Nwy.

FRANCE (Lariton): A Mar-Spa; F Mid-Por; A Pic-Rel.

GERMANY (McGullam): A Ruh-Bel; F Hol S A Ruh-Bel; A Kie-Den.

ITALY (Drakert): A Tus & A Ven hold; F Tyr-Tun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (McKeon): A Gal-Bud; A Ser-Bul; F Alb-Gre.

RUSSIA (Stewart): F Bla-Rum; A Ukr S F Bla-Rum; F Rot-Swe; A St.P-Fin.

TURKEY (Muszynski): A Con-Bul; F Ank-Bla; A Smy-Arm.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy. (4) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Ser, Tri,

FRANCE: Fre, Mar, Far, Por, Spa. (5) Vie. (5)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, Mun. (6) War. (6)

ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tun, Ven. (4) TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)

Germany may build three new units, France, Russia, and Austria-Hungary may each build two, and England and Italy may each build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 JANUARY 1975.

1974IA

"Spring 1901"

MAN SCHLAFTE UNTER DEN LINDEN

This is the game called "G-IV" in the last issue. Doug Beyerlein has assigned it the Boardman Number "1974IA", and players should henceforth use this designation in their correspondence.

ENGLAND (Harrish): F Edi-Nrg; F Lon-Nth; A Liv-Edi.

FRANCE (Parks): A Far-Rur; F Bre-Mid; A Mar S A Par-Bur.

GERMANY (Gilinsky): No moves received.. A Ber, F Kie & A Mun hold.

ITALY (Lerman): A Rom-Wen; A Ven-Pie; F Nap-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Singer): F Tri holds; A Vie-Poh; A Bud-Rum.

RUSSIA (Comber): F St.P(s.c.)-Bot; F Sev-Bla; A Mos-Ukr; A War-Gal.TURKEY (Malay): A Con-Bul; A Smy-Con; F Ank-Bla.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1975. Players should submit with these moves conditional builds for "Winter 1901" so that hopefully the play of the game can be expedited. A press release appears on p. 3.

Pete Comber, following these moves, resigns as Russia. The stand-by, who now replaces him, is Tom Kissner, 1288 Amesbrooke Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 2E9, Canada. As a stand-by for Germany I want to call once more on Eric Verheiden, Marks House, Cal. Tech., Pasadena, Calif. 91126, who came through so well last turn in 1973RQ and 1974HQ. I neglected to assign him to Russia in this game only because I felt sure that he'd be a replacement in at least one of those other games.

1974IA - PRESS RELEASE

CONSTANTINOPLE (From the Turkish Ministry of Information): We have the extreme sadness to report the sudden and unexpected death of His Imperial Highness, Abdul Hamid, Sultan of all the Turks, Caliph of Islam, and the Right Hand of Allah. Palace physicians have determined the cause of death to be heart failure caused by foreign matter in the ventral chamber. . . How $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce of lead came to be there is as yet undetermined.

This tragedy was followed by the loss of the sole heir, who upon hearing of the Sultan's death became distraught and threw himself in front of a passing bayonet. With the country thus left leaderless, authority has been temporarily assumed by the Committee for Public Order, consisting of those responsible members of the armed forces staff and national police.

For the Committee /s/ Mustafa Vergot

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Five paid entries have so far come in for another new postal Diplomacy game. As soon as two more get here, the country assignments will be announced. If those entries come in before 24 January the deadline for "Spring 1901" moves will be 1 March; otherwise it will be 22 March. See p. 12 for information on signing up.

Department of Huddled Masses Yearning to Breathe Free: "Two Greek brothers who were members of a crew painting the State of Liberty... have been arrested as illegal aliens." - New York Post, 10 January 1975

New postal games of SPI's Frigate are now being organized in GRAUSTARK's sister publication EMPIRE. The entry fee is \$5. Please indicate which scenarios and sides particularly interest you, and I'll try to see that you get what you want. I will open games in any "Simple" or "Intermediate" scenario from the Frigate rules, or from the supplementary scenarios listed in Moves #17 or #18.

"Most Devoutly Wished-For Episode: An hour on The Waltons in which Pop and Grandpa sell green lumber to the builders of an orphanage, Mom entertains a traveling salesman and John Roy's siblings discover him committing an unnatural act back of the sawmill." - Time, 30 December 1974

Several new players have asked whether they must separately subscribe to GRAUSTARK as well as pay a game fee. Any player who pays a game fee will get GRAUSTARK as long as that game is in progress, whether he has been eliminated or not. Non-paying standbys must keep up their subscriptions, however.

In the event of a postal strike - which is being talked up as a possibility for this spring - all GRAUSTARK deadlines will be rescheduled for the fourth Saturday after the end of the strike. In the event of a Canadian postal strike, all games in which a Canadian player is active will be similarly postponed.

"Billiput - the tiny ((sic)) magazine of postal Diplomacy, printed on 1- and 1/2 sides of a postcard" is advertising new games for merely the price of a subscription. These are 10 for \$1 from Imaginary Pi(e?); 310 E. 50th St., New York, N. Y. 10022.

1074GG

4

"Fall 1902"

A KNIFE FOR EVERY BACK

ENGLAND (Doyle): F Bar-Nwy; F Edi-Nrg; F Nth S F Bar-Nwy.

FRANCE (Amer): A Bel-Hal; A Bur-Ruh; A Mar-Bur; F Mid-Spa(s.c.); F Spa(s.c.)-Mar.GERMANY (Brennick): A Hal-Bel; F Den-Swe; A Sil-Bch; A Mun-Bur; A War holds.ITALY (Lipton): F Tyr holds; F Ion-Eas; A Pie-Mar; A Ven-Tri.AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Zimmermann): A Rum-Bul; A Ser & F Gre S A Rum-Bul;
A Tyr-Mun; A Boh S A Tyr-Mun.RUSSIA (Smith): F Bot-Swe; A Fin S F Bot-Swe; F Nwy-St.P(n.c.); A Ukr-War; F Sev-Pla.TURKEY (Drakert): A Arm-Sev; F Pla S A Arm-Sev; A Bul-Rum; F Con-Bul(so).

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish A Bul is annihilated, and Russia removes the dislodged F Sev rather than retreat it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy. (4) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Mul, Gre, Ser,

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Vie. (5)

Spa. (6) RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, St.P, Swe. (4)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hal, Kie, Mun. (5) TURKEY: Ank, Con, Sev, Smy. (4)

ITALY: Nar, Rom, Tri, Tun, Ven. (5)

England, France, Italy, and Turkey may each build one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1902" builds is NOON, SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY 1975.

1074GR

"Fall 1902"

WHAT ARE ALL THOSE RUSSIANS DOING IN BERLIN

ENGLAND (Rosenberg): A Bre holds; F Bel holds; F Eng S A Bre; F Nrg-Nwy;
F Nwy-St.P(n.c.).

FRANCE (Howe): A Spa-Mar; A Gas-Bre; A Par & F Mid S A Gas-Bre.

GERMANY (Burley): F Swe & A Hal held; A Den S F Swe; A Pru-War; A Sil S
A Pru-War.ITALY (Jacobs): F Wes-Spa(s.c.); A Mar S F Wes-Spa(s.c.); A Pie S A Mar;
F Tyr-Lyo.AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Diller): A Rum-Bul; A Ser & F Gre S A Rum-Bul; A Bud-
Rum; A Gal-Ukr.RUSSIA (Prosnitz): F Bel-Ber; A Ukr-Mos; A War-Mos.TURKEY (Squires): A Bul-Sev; F Pla S A Bul-Sev; A Sev-Mos; F Smy-Aeg;
F Con S F Smy-Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish A Bul is annihilated. Russia retreats A War-Liv and England retreats A Bre-Pic. France must retreat A Spa-Por or A Spa-Gas; this retreat must be phoned in to the Gamesmaster at once. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Edl, Liv, Lon, Nwy, ITALY: Mar, Nap, Rom, Spa, Tun,
St.P. (6) Ven. (6)
FRANCE: Bre, Par, Por. (3) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Rum,
GERMANY: Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Swe, Ser, Tri, Vie. (7)
War. (6) RUSSIA: Ber, Mos. (2)
TURKEY: Ank, Con, Sev, Smy. (4)

Italy and Austria-Hungary each get two builds, and England and Germany each get one. Russia and France must each remove one unit. These "Winter 1902" moves, which may be made conditional on the direction of the French retreat, should be phoned in to the Gamesmaster AT ONCE. Since both the all-New-York-City games have been delayed by late phone calls, I am setting NOON, SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 1975 as the deadline for "Winter 1902" moves. The deadline for "Spring 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1975.

CONSTANTINOPLE (The Times of London, June 1901): There is a sasquatch that lives in Irkutsk. Unlikely, you say? True. Even improbable. But not impossible. And as the hallowed bathroom walls of SPI say, "Anything that can happen will."

This sasquatch's only feeling is one of hatred for orangutans. There is no apparent explanation for this, but our theory is that as his distant ancestors were crossing the Bering Strait, a band of orangutans who had lost their way attempted to stop their passage.

But our sasquatch friend is not the only one who will meet up with the Wild Berneans. There exists, under the cool dark waters of Lake Baikal, a frogman. Recently, one of the Russian lines of the Trans-Siberian Railway had upset the environs of Lake Baikal, and, in the process, left our frogman (who, by the way, speaks with a French accent) homeless. He now has an incomprehensibly passionate hatred for the Trans Siberian Railway.

How does this all fit in? It will, don't worry.

74.12a

"Fall 1938"

AMERICANS EXPELLED FROM GERMANY

	USA	Fra	Rus	Ger
GERMANY: Germany (34) vs. USA (8), at 4:1.	Als			
Campbell Red Lake - 122 (D). USA re-	Aus			C
moves 8.	Bel		C	C
The score remains Britain 7, Germany 7,	Bri			
Russia 6, USA 3, France 2. The deadline	Cze			C
for "Spring 1939" moves is NOON, SATUR-	Fra			
DAY 8 FEBRUARY 1974.	Ger		U,18	.34
	Ita			
	Pol	U,6	U,16	
	Rhi			
	Rum		U,19	6
	Rus			30
	USA			

MORE ORIGINS? YES, BUT ELSEWHERE

Avalon-Hill's game Origins of World War II, designed by James Dunnigan, has never caught on to the extent that Diplomacy did, but it has a small dedicated group of postal players. To accommodate the requests of these players, new Origins games are now being organized in GRAUSTARK's sister publication EMPIRE. The game deadlines will be 2 weeks, but otherwise play will proceed as in GRAUSTARK, using the postal rules recommended in the Origins rulebook. The entry fee is \$5. Players should submit the scenarios that they'd like to play, in the order of their preference. This may include the "Mixed" scenario described in the rulebook, in which you know your opponents' PF allocations, but not their objectives.

HAPPY NEW WAR

An increasing number of indications are cumulating towards war as 1975 begins. This article will list those indications, and how we ought to react when the war breaks out.

As anyone who owns a TV set or reads a newspaper is aware, the war will be fought against the Arabs, for the purpose of securing supplies of petroleum at a low price - preferably below \$5 per barrel. For over a year, the media have been faithfully preparing the American public for such a war.

The first major indication appeared about a year ago, in a TV interview with Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger on 8 January 1974. In that interview, made while people were lining up by odd or even license plate numbers to buy gas at as much as 99¢ per gallon, the Secretary spoke of the "risk that military power might be used against the Arabs if oil curbs became really severe". (Drew Middleton, New York Times, 12 January 1974) He also said that, "We should recognize that the independent powers of sovereign states should not be used in such a way as would cripple the larger mass of the industrialized world. That is running too big a risk and it is a source of danger, I think, not only from our standpoint but from the standpoint of the oil-producing nations."

The same news item reported that "American troops immediately available for military operations in the Middle East consist of a reinforced airborne battalion in northern Italy that, one officer said, 'is earmarked for an emergency in the Middle East', and the Marine amphibious unit with the Sixth Fleet". This was a year ago; things are obviously more nearly ready now. For details see an article shortly to appear in Strategy & Tactics #48 about the historical and military background to SPI's forthcoming new game Sixth Fleet.

In the subsequent year this theme has been repeated often. Sometimes predictions envisage a direct US seizure of oilfields on the Persian Gulf; sometimes the job is done by Iranian or Israeli troops using US weapons and money. Two months ago, an issue of New York carried a variant scenario whereby the Shah of Iran privately persuaded the US, Soviet, and French governments that he would act in their separate interests, and then seized Iraq and the whole south shore of the Persian Gulf, thus obtaining a world oil-monopoly and bringing the Age of Technology to an end. New York did not explain where the Shah would then sell his overpriced oil.

More seriously, President Ford and Secretary Kissinger made veiled threats of such military action in speeches at the UN on 23 September. Max Lerner's column (New York Post, 16 December 1974) argues that "the...logic of sheer national survival would compel the nations who are fighting for their economic existence to do whatever they have to do to survive." This would be considered nothing more than retaliation in kind against the Arabs. "The Arab countries used an economic weapon for political purposes, as well as for sheer money greed...The Western nations would be using a military weapon for economic survival."

According to Jack Anderson (New York Post, 17 December 1974) the Pentagon is already thinking in terms of such military intervention. "There has been secret speculation that the US, if its oil supply should be jeopardized, might support an Israeli paratroop attack on Kuwait's oil fields. But more likely...US Marines would attempt to take over Libya's more vulnerable fields." President Ford's speech of 28 December also spoke of a "high likelihood of war in the Middle East".

In the January issue of Commentary, Prof. Robert W. Tucker of Johns Hopkins looks into the matter in detail. He feels that the Persian Gulf coast from Kuwait to Qatar, which produces 40% of the output of the OPEC nations, would be the best bet. These nations have small populations and low military capability. If the wells were sabotaged, they could be put

back into production in fairly short order. It might even be possible to move in with anti-personnel weapons that would do little damage to the well, and act so fast that no sabotage could be accomplished; in this regard it should be noted that the US Army is now placing orders for nerve gas. (New York Post, 26 December 1974)

Using the oil of the occupied territories, the US could break the OPEC cartel by underselling it. Oil prices could be driven back down to something like \$3 per barrel, which prevailed at the beginning of 1973.

There will be other advantages, economic and political, with the forthcoming war. Compare, as our leaders will be comparing, the America of 1932 with that of 1942. In 1932 America was deep in depression, dispirited, divided. Unemployment was high, radical movements were strong, and people often could not afford the most basic necessities of life. But in 1942, with the coming of war, America enjoyed high industrial activity, full employment, and a greater sense of unity and common dedication than ever before or since in our history. The doubts and disunion of the past decade would vanish, submerged in a vast flood of patriotic enthusiasm for the war effort, as the doubts and disunion of the 1930's vanished at Pearl Harbor.

There is not the slightest prospect that the notorious Peace Movement will be able to do anything about this. The actions at Kent State and other colleges have drastically but effectively persuaded students that nothing can be gained, and a great deal lost, by recklessly opposing their country's war policy. ROTC units have returned to many of the campuses which were hotbeds of Pacifism in the 1960's. (New York Daily News, 27 October 1974) The federal government has by several means served notice on potential opponents of the forthcoming war, that they cannot expect the relatively lenient treatment that they got during the fuss over the Vietnam War. President Ford's nominee for Attorney-General is Edward Levi, who as President of the University of Chicago met a student demonstration by expelling everyone involved in it. He made it stick too. Attorney-General Levi is going to make any demonstrators against the Middle Eastern War look back longingly on the good old lenient days of Attorney-General Mitchell.

This is
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P Great
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Steps are already being taken to prevent a recrudescence of the Peace Movement. The current disclosures of the domestic activity of the CIA are rubbing dissidents' noses in the fact that they cannot expect to oppose the government of the United States of America with impunity. Next time, of course, it won't be the CIA that will keep tabs on Pacifists, but another, more secretive agency, probably in the Defense or Justice Department.

A potential source for trouble has already been neutralized. Last year Columbia Pictures presented at the Cannes Film Festival a film called Hearts and Minds. According to a review in the New York Times of 17 November 1974, this film was an attack on the American war effort in Vietnam, made by people who believe that there is a right to oppose the United States of America. It is "a very affecting piece of film", and deliberately calculated to stir up opposition to war. Columbia now refuses to distribute this film, which has an enormous capacity for mischief. Stirring up a revival of anti-war feeling as the country goes into another war is neither wise, patriotic, profitable, safe, nor prudent.

Or the war might be somewhere else. In the New York Daily News of 29 December 1974, Joseph Fried lists nearly a dozen other possible conflicts in which the United States might take a more lively interest: the Kurdish war for independence against Iraq; a war in Oman between Yemeni-backed guerrillas and an Iranian-backed government; Ethiopia's attempt to suppress an independence movement in Eritrea; uprisings in Ulster, the Basque Provinces, and Uruguay - even a revival of American involvement in Indo-China!

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

((The editor's own comments on these letters appear in double brackets. Interletterations are all quotations from Max Shulman's hilarious yet trenchant 1971 novel Potatoes are Cheaper - a largely autobiographical (I suspect) account of what it was like to grow up poor, Jewish, and horny in Minnesota during the Great Depression.))

ADAM GILINSKY: Some observations: as a "new" member of the N. Y. "conspiracy" (I live in Westchester, know all the "members", etc.) I find it hard to believe that all the infighting in the hobby is A. vicious, B. regional, C. so trivial. While it is true that Dippy can cause passions to rise over rather ridiculous items (no insult, John, but the idea of "Boardman Numbers" making a game official makes my stomach turn), these passions are, usually, greater between those who play face to face or know each other (what kind of friend are you, to stab me?), than between two people who have never met. I would say that the people in the "New York Group" dislike each other as much or more than others (which isn't very much, as we share our interests to a great extent). Now, I've been stabbed by people I know and people I don't, and while it may colour my opinion of them, it doesn't determine it. I'll still ally with them, but I'll be more wary of them. I admit a bias for phone Diplomacy, but I'm in games with those in my area and don't have an alliance with them.

I refuse to join any organization of Diplomacy players that attempts to make games official. I support the idea of giving homes to orphaned games, in fact, I'll even volunteer to GM one in a postcard zine at my expense. ((Adam's address is River Road, Scarborough, N. Y. 10510.)) Ratings I can take or leave - much as I like to win, it doesn't get my rocks off to see me rated number one or #1000. I play Diplomacy to enjoy it. Rod Walker's a fag - well, that's his business. I don't see why it should be a burning issue to me. Dummy issues, insulting someone - if they're not extraordinarily vicious, can be fun - even if they are about me or someone I like. If John wants to proclaim Nixon as a hero or talk about a Republican coup d'etat, well, he's probably wrong (in my opinion) but we still have free speech in this country - and it's his zine (obviously).

"Selby Avenue got just about any nationality you can name, but we all live together with no trouble because we all got these two things in common: horniness and unemployment."

DAVE KADLECEK (11 December): About your comments on John McKeon's letter ((in GRAUSTARK #321)) what do you mean by "which is more than (the) IDA would do"? Are you saying that the IDA would refuse to publish such information, or that it never gets anything done? Are you saying that IDA members wouldn't do it or that the IDA wouldn't do it through Diplomacy Review, its official zine?

((I mean that the "International Diplomacy Association", speaking through its President, Edi Birsen, has flatly refused to make public the names of Gamesmasters who have collected game entry fees and then dropped out of sight without either publishing the games or refunding the money. I asked Edi Birsen in person whether IDA would blow the whistle on these thieves, and he told me that to do so would "cause bad feeling". Douglas Beyerlein, who is giving out "Boardman Numbers" these days, should be well set up to determine which games have been abandoned by their Gamesmasters. Yet, pursuant to my request, he made this reply in a postcard, dated 4 November:

((("Sorry, but I don't have the information on GMS abandoning games that you asked for. The records that Conrad turned over to me aren't set

up to give that type of info, although it would be interesting. I wonder, however, if warning the public about these people really does much good. Most; if not all, GMs would do abandon their games also usually totally drop from the hobby at that time and rarely ever come back. Thus, by the time the warning about a GM is out, he has come and gone (with the money)."

((This is not always true; notoriously defaulting Gamesmasters have tried to bring in fresh suckers. IDA, in fact, was founded by one of these thieves: Larry Peery, who was too much even for them and was eventually expelled. IDA may not consider that its vaunted "services" to Diplomacy players should include public warnings against defaulting Gamesmasters. As a member of The Diplomacy Association (TDA) I decided to feel such a responsibility. Accordingly, I take this opportunity to warn all postal Diplomacy players against having dealings with the following thieves: Larry Peery, Buddy Tretick, Charles Reinsel, Scott Hanken, John Mensinger, Gary Jones.

((There are other Gamesmasters concerning whom I have heard numerous complaints of lateness. However, here there seem to be extenuating circumstances such as illness. Without imputations of dishonesty, the people most commonly mentioned in this connection are Gordon Anderson, Chris Schleicher, and the polycephalous management of The Fighter's Home. Precise data concerning the defalcations of any postal Diplomacy Gamesmaster would be appreciated, and will be printed in future issues of GRAUSTARK.))

"Think," said Albert. "What do we do better than anybody?"

"Hump," I said.

"Absolutely," said Albert. "We are no question the best humpers in the whole St. Paul. I am Number One and you are Number Two."

"Well, yes," I said, "but you rape most of yours. I don't think that should count."

It was true what I said. Not that Albert meant to rape them; it's just that he was so fantastically strong they usually fainted from a simple hug.

TIMOTHY SAGES (5 December): Why didn't you have your address in the ((December)) Esquire spread? Then you could have resigned your college post and devoted the remainder of your life to answering letters from people trapped in America's hinterlands who would like to play postal Diplomacy but can't get hold of von Motzke.

...Is there any truth to the rumor that your next appearance will be in Viva or Playgirl?

((No; nor in One either, so Walker can stop panting. See "New Blood" in this issue for your own name, and hopefully other Gamesmasters will see it there too.))

"I found where Ma hid the cold-storage ticket," said Albert. "I got the coat out and sold it for \$100."

"Albert!" I gasped. That's all I could say.

"She'll never know," he said. "She's gonna leave it in storage till the Depression's over, and the Depression's never gonna be over."

MARK ZIMMERMANN (11 December): Thanks for mentioning the Esquire photo - very interesting. I had expected more of a Gandalf-type (or John Galt).

((Please excuse me. I have to go to the bathroom for a moment.))

"My cousin Seymour...married a shiksa a few years ago. His family went into such conniptions like you wouldn't believe. They wailed and cried and said the prayer for the dead and sat shiva and ripped their

leopards and poured ashes on their heads. I know because I had to bring them ashes from our furnace; they had an oil burner."

 ERIC VERHEIDEN (10 December): Concerning Nick Wedd's "Still Pandin's Paradox" in GRAUSTARK #321, I think what is pointed up here more than anything is the semantic difficulties involved in trying to express what I intended in a reasonably concise manner while still keeping it clear. In this context, "may not move" was intended to be equivalent to "the conveyed attack does not take place" and there was an implicit assumption that conveyed attacks were to be adjudicated, according to the rule, simultaneously and independently, not successively as Wedd suggested they might. With these interpretations, my rule becomes exactly what Wedd suggested it should be and indeed what was intended originally. For further details, the original article in Wazir #4 or either of the two subsequent reformulations in Diplomacy Review #11 or Erehwon #78 are recommended.

 "(Incidentally, if you ask me, this so-called traditional love of learning is another Jewish myth, like Jewish girls don't put out. Some Jews love learning, some don't. Remember this: for every Einstein, we got ten thousand dentists, and Barney Ross is by us a bigger hero than Louis Brandeis.

"(No, love of learning is not what's kept the Jews going. It's something else, something nobody knows. My cousin Albert thinks it's corn beef. Well, maybe.)"

 WILL McCULLAM (13 October): I'm what is referred to as "New Blood" - never having finished a postal game, although I'm in two presently - one in El Conquistador (which is apparently about to fold) and another in the Pouch. I'm really sore at Gordon Anderson ((publisher of El Conquistador)) for quitting. Not only does he have \$16.50 of mine, but I was enjoying the Press very much, and had a strong position as Italy.

Consequently, I suppose I can undertake a game to replace the above. The correspondence is so extensive in this hobby that it amazes me how some players handle 3, let alone 10 games. On the other hand, there do seem to be a lot of missed moves and a general lack of correspondence. I can't imagine missing a move (except on purpose) and generally send 6-8 letters per turn. I do not notice very much press in GRAUSTARK, which is just as well from a time standpoint as far as I am concerned.

((Some games generate a lot of press; others don't. I have high hopes for 1974GR. Back issues of GRAUSTARK show a lot more press than most of the currently active players seem willing or able to write.))

 "She had fine teeth, very white and even. True, they were buck teeth, but white and even buck teeth...Her skin was nice, no pimples and very few bristles, and her hair was okay. It wasn't any particular color, but at least you could see she didn't set it at home. As for her figure, let's not go into it. Let's just say she had the regular number of parts and they all seemed to be in working order and her father owned twenty-four theaters and what the hell."

 EVAN JONES: John, John, for shame!

And you too, Bob! ((See GRAUSTARK #321.)) You are totally mistaken about my political views and my heritage. So let me set you straight. First off, I am not a screaming liberal who wants to hang Nixon. While admitting that I do not believe that he is above the law, I do not believe that he committed a capital offence, a Capitol offence, maybe, but not a capital offence. Nor am I an allout Democrat. I try not to let party affiliation unduly influence my voting. Another thing, my family is not by any means rich. ((I grew up in the prairie states during the

1930s; don't tell me what rich is.)) Although we have a good stereo set-up, we have no TV. ((That's not poverty; that's good taste.))...And I don't at all limit my musical interests to classical, although I do enjoy it. And I'm not a WASP either, not purebred, anyway. I'm part English, French, German, Greek, Portuguese, Spanish, Polish, Cherokee Indian, Irish, Italian, Jewish, etc., etc. My father was born in North Carolina, my mother, in New York, and they are both agnostic. I was born on Fifth Avenue and I live in Harlem and I was neither circumcised nor baptized. ((These days, there's some novelty value in having all your own skin. Happy hunting!)) I'm nothing but one of your run of the mill, atheist mutts. You can call me whatever you like, and almost all of your bigoted jokes can be aimed at me. I'm anti-communist, although I'm not exactly antidisestablishmentarist. I'm a quasi-Women's Libber. ((It says here that men are becoming quite enthusiastic about Women's Lib. "Don't I know it! Mine just liberated me by taking up with that redhead who runs the food co-op." - Petchesky, "Reactionary Comics", Wimmen's Comix #2.)) I like postal Diplomacy and across the board Origins and Wargames. I'm flunking out of Engineering school. I dislike prejudice and do my best to repress it in myself. So up yours, you commiepinkiefag-yankeescumsuckingprick!

PS: By the way, what I meant in my last letter was that proportionally there are far more blacks than whites in the lower income bracket. Sorry I didn't make that clear at the time.

PPS: In regards to the War of 1812, I said the U. S. invasion of Canada was fascist, not the U. S.! ((That's still a damnably odd use of the overworked term "fascist".))

PPPS: I have discovered that I am Jewish. Hooray!!!

"Fine," she said. "I'm in the women's dorm. Ask for me at the desk."

"In that case I better have your name," I said.

"Of course," she said. "How silly of me."

"So what is it?" I said.

"Bridget O'Flynn," she said.

"Oy," I said.

ROB LIPTON (7 December): It's good to see the Diplomatic Pouch again. I might ask Evan just what he bases his atheism on. How was the non-existence of God revealed to him? ("There is no God and Mary was his Mother", "There is no God and Muhammed is his Prophet", etc.) ((As far back as high-school debate team I learned that the burden of proof lay with the affirmative.)) My brother was at Tulane for the first semester of his Freshman year, and came back, to go to NYU with his major complaint that he was bored to tears, that he was used to a more cosmopolitan atmosphere. Well, chacun a son gout.

"Brunch is eleven o'clock," she said.

I didn't know what brunch was but I didn't ask because I figured my sister Libbie, who keeps track of high society, would tell me. She did. Brunch is lox and bagel, except in silver dishes.

RANDOLPH SMYTHE (19 December): Thanks for the sample GRAUSTARK. Normally I'd be interested in getting into a game, but a recent increase in other commitments leaves me unable to spend the time I'd like to on the ten games I presently have going.

Nor am I an archivist, and have found out the hard way that other people's games/press leave me rather cold. Until I can pare down my other Diplomacy activities a bit, I don't think I should be subscribing to your zine.

Your articles, however, are excellent; if this is an average issue in this respect, GRAUSTARK is at the top of my list as a future possibility. I now have your address, so you may expect to hear from me again in 6-12 months.

((Thanks for the kind words. As I mention below, there'll be game openings available then.))

"To tell you the truth it wasn't much of a fight. Albert, if you remember, was five feet one and Bruce was six feet four, so only one punch got thrown. Albert gave Bruce a shot in the balls and that was that."

NEW BLOOD - XII

This list of people who have inquired about postal Diplomacy and GRAUSTARK updates the previous list, published in #320. It is complete as of 1 January.

Alc Gael K. Kent, FSC Box 2634, Robins AFB, Georgia 31098

Timothy Sager, P. O. Box 1181, Magnolia, Ark. 71753

Randolph Smyth, 247 First Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1S 2G5, Canada

John Taras, 512 Devonshire Dr., Sewell, N. J. 08080

L. J. Thompson, 1244 Frinedale Dr., Ottawa, Ontario K2C 2G4, Canada

Don Williams, 1601 Radcliff, Columbus, Mo. 65201

The next issue of GRAUSTARK will contain an up-to-date list of the names and addresses of all current players, traders, and other readers. If you have moved, or are about to move, please send me your name and address so this roster can be up-to-date.

*

GRAUSTARK, published by John Boardman at the address below, is the oldest bulletin of postal Diplomacy, and will celebrate its 12th birthday in May. Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$2. Entry in a postal Diplomacy game, which includes a free subscription as long as the game lasts, is \$10. (See #318 for the house rules.) The following back issues are available: 137, 199, 200, 202, 206, 248-250, 253, 257, 258, 271, 273-276, 280, 283, 285, 286, and 291-322. These are all 10 issues for \$1 by 3rd-class mail except for ## 296, 300, and 315, which are 50¢ each.

GRAUSTARK #323

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

(see p. 6)